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COUNTRY Soviet Zone of Germany REPORT NO. _____TOPIC Exchange of Soviet Troops in Parchim

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EVALUATION _____ PLACE OBTAINED _____

DATE OF CONTENT 26 October 1949 to 3 January 1950 25X1DATE OBTAINED _____ DATE PREPARED 1 March 1950

REFERENCES _____

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) _____ 25X1REMARKS _____ **RETURN TO CIA LIBRARY**

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1. The following observations were made in Parchim (M 54/T 74) between 26 and 30 October 1949:

a. Armored vehicles arrived by rail during the night of 26 October and moved to the Reiter Kaserne. (1) Eighteen 105-mm guns on self-propelled mounts and some motor vehicles were observed at about 9 p.m., nine JS tanks at about 2 a.m. and six T34 tanks at about 3 a.m.

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b. Twenty-six T34 tanks passed through Parchim on 28 October at about 4 p.m. and moved towards Meyenburg (M 54/T 93). (2) Eight trucks towing guns of about 75 mm caliber were seen heading towards Ludwigslust (M 54/T 53) at about 8 p.m.

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Eight T34 tanks and about 40 trucks were seen heading towards Ludwigslust at about 9 p.m.

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c. Trucks _____ moved to the freight station early on 29 October.

(1) Twenty-four T34 tanks, two jeeps and four trucks were seen heading towards Ludwigslust on the same day. (3)

(2) Motor vehicles _____ were observed shuttling between the kaserne and the railroad station.

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(3) Four trucks _____ (presumably belonging to an AAA unit) went towards the kaserne. Ten trucks _____ (loaded with engineer and bridge-building equipment) nine trucks _____ (towing 75-mm guns) and several trucks _____ were seen heading towards Ludwigslust on 29 October.

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d. The arrival of a new unit in Parchim was observed on 30 October. Motor vehicles [redacted] (belonging to the new unit) shuttled between the freight station and the kaserne (new section). 25X1B

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2. a. Four trucks coming from Ludwigslust and towing 76.2-mm AA guns arrived in Parchim on 11 November 1949 at about 6 p.m. [redacted] (4)

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b. The new section of the Reiter Kaserne was occupied [redacted] (5) 25X1

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c. The Landratsamt (county administration building) was vacated about the end of November 1949. It was allegedly to be returned to the German county authorities. (6)

d. A German informant said that construction work was done in the Reiter Kaserne (new section) and a unit headquarters would be stationed there. The regiment in the Reiter Kaserne (new section) was commanded by Col Flekhodanov

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e. Trucks [redacted] shuttled between the Reiter Kaserne (new section) and the railroad station on 17 November 1949:

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f. Railroad men said that a train left for Perleberg (M 54/T 70) on the same day.

3. a. The Soviet kommandatura was dissolved on 31 December 1949. A branch office of the Soviet control commission Schwerin (M 54/T 46) was established in the Wall Hotel on Moltkeplatz on 1 January 1950.

b. A 150-mm gun barrel, a JS tank and two light 37-mm AA guns were worked on in the armory in the former Reich Labor Service Camp on Ludwigsluster Chaussee.

c. Two JS tanks moved into the kaserne (new section) on 2 January.

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[redacted] Comment:

(1) The tanks and SF guns detained in Parchim probably belonged to the 18th Mecz Div tank unit which is quartered in the Parchim Reiter Kaserne. The troops returned to their military post upon completion of the Third Shock Army maneuvers in the area east of Magdeburg.

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(2) The tanks and motorized troops observed heading towards Ludwigslust and Meyenburg on 28 and 29 October 1949 probably belonged to component units of the 18th Mecz Div. The units may have participated in the final maneuvers in the area southeast of Parchim in late October 1949. It appears possible, however, that the tanks moving towards Ludwigslust may have belonged to a tank unit which was transferred from Parchim to Ferleberg.

(3) The unit presumably belonged to an AAA unit which was transferred to Parchim. According to another report, the unit had been in Ferleberg.

(4) [REDACTED] a GHQ unit of the GOFG. [REDACTED] newly observed, mostly in connection with AA guns, in the Third Shock Army area since August 1949. [REDACTED] a newly activated AAA unit of the GOFG which is stationed in the Third Shock Army area.

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(5) [REDACTED] confirms the Parchim 60th Mecz Regt of the 18th Mecz Div up to late November 1949.

(6) The Hq 18th Mecz Div had previously been in the Parchim Landratsamt. It is known from another report that the division headquarters was moved from Parchim to Ferleberg. *

* [REDACTED]

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